the step of simultaneously receiving more than one broadcast video/audio program from one or more sources; and

the step of storing each of said programs as data in one or more cyclic buffers wherein upon being filled said cyclic buffers begin replacing the oldest of said data with the newest of said data; and

the step of simultaneously providing playback control of said data independently from said step of storing said programs wherein said playback control comprises random access play, stop, pause, rewind and fast-forward functions;

whereby said time-shifted viewing is delayed viewing of one or more programs in progress and may be initiated and controlled simultaneously with said storing of said programs.

6. (twice amended)   A system for time-shifted viewing of broadcast or selected audio/video programs comprising:

video input means for simultaneously receiving more than one broadcast video/audio program from one or more sources; and

one or more cyclic buffer means for storing said programs as program data in a cyclical fashion wherein upon being filled, said cyclic buffers begin replacing the oldest data with the newest of said data and is operable for simultaneous reading and writing of the said data; and

viewing playback means for providing playback control of said data independently from the storing of said programs wherein said playback control comprises random access playback, stop, pause, rewind and fast-forward functions;

whereby said time-shifted viewing is delayed viewing of one or more programs in progress and may be initiated and controlled simultaneously with said storing of said programs.